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6                   UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
7                   WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
8                   AT SEATTLE

9                   PAUL LEWIS,

10                  Petitioner,

Case No. C19-095-JCC-MLP

11                  v.

12                  MICHAEL OBENLAND,

13                  Respondent.

ORDER DENYING PETITIONER'S  
MOTION TO STRIKE

14         This is a federal habeas action brought under 28 U.S.C. § 2254. This matter comes before  
15     the Court at the present time on Petitioner's motion to strike Respondent's reply brief filed in  
16     support of his answer to Petitioner's federal habeas petition. (Dkt. # 26.) Petitioner asserts that  
17     Respondent was required to get prior approval from the Court before filing a reply brief and,  
18     because he failed to do so, the brief should be stricken. (*Id.*) Petitioner overlooks the fact that the  
19     Court expressly authorized the filing of a reply brief in both its Order directing service of  
20     Petitioner's federal habeas petition on Respondent (*see* dkt. # 13, ¶ 3), and its more recent Order  
21     granting Petitioner's motion for extension of time (*see* dkt. # 22, ¶ 2). Petitioner's motion to  
22     strike is therefore without merit.

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ORDER DENYING PETITIONER'S  
MOTION TO STRIKE - 1

1 Accordingly, the Court ORDERS as follows:

2 (1) Petitioner's motion to strike (dkt. # 26) is DENIED.

3 (2) The Clerk shall send copies of this Order to Petitioner, to counsel for Respondent,

4 and to the Honorable John C. Coughenour.

5 DATED this 19th day of September, 2019.

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8 MICHELLE L. PETERSON  
9 United States Magistrate Judge